

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Pursuant to the proposed revisions to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the specification to insert the accompanying paper copy of the Sequence Listing (Page numbers 1-9) into the Application at the end of the Application.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] Figure 16 shows an exemplary schedule for DNA immunizations i.m. or i.d. of monkeys with an expression vector encoding TAg-25 antigen of the invention with or without wild-type human B7-1 protein or CD28BP-15 protein ~~protein~~ four times for 3 weeks (2 mg DNA total). DNA immunizations were followed by i.d. administration to each animal of 100 microgram Tag-25 ~~TAg-2~~ polypeptide in 2 mg alum twice every four weeks. TAg-25 and CD28BP can be delivered via separate DNA vectors (monocistronic vectors) or delivered together on one DNA vectors (bicistronic vector). The polypeptide and nucleic acid sequences of CD28BP-15 are shown as SEQ ID NO:66 and SEQ ID NO:19, respectively, in Int'l Patent App. No. PCT/US01/19973 (published as WO 02/00717), filed June 22, 2001, and Int'l Patent App. No. PCT/US02/19898, filed June 21, 2002.

Please replace the paragraph below Table 6 that is labeled with asterisk, which is immediately above paragraph [00482]) on page 172, with the following amended paragraph:

*A protein boost may comprise a heterologous or homologous protein. A heterologous protein used as a protein boost is a protein comprising a polypeptide sequence ~~sequencee~~ that differs from the sequence of the protein that is encoded by the nucleic acid (e.g., DNA) used for the prime immunization (e.g., nucleic acid prime or vector prime). A homologous protein used as a protein boost is a protein comprising a polypeptide sequence that is identical to the sequence of the protein that is encoded by the nucleic acid (e.g., DNA) used for the prime immunization ~~immunization~~ (e.g., DNA prime or DNA vector prime).

Please replace paragraph [00531] with the following amended paragraph:

[00531] The present invention provides a vaccine approach that induces both specific Abs and T cells against human EpCAM, and thus is expected to provide significant improvements over antibody-based therapies and conventional cancer treatments. In one aspect, the invention provides various vaccine compositions which comprise: (1) at least one novel TAg polypeptide of the invention (e.g., SEQ ID NOS:1, 4-8) (which is novel variant of hEpCAM antigen) and/or TAg-polypeptide encoding nucleic acid (e.g., SEQ ID NOS: 16, 19-23) (e.g., or expression vector comprising such nucleic acid); and (2) optionally an adjuvant (as described ~~described~~ elsewhere herein) or a novel CD28 binding protein ("CD28BP"), which is a novel co-stimulatory polypeptide that displays preferential binding to human CD28 and has improved costimulatory activity over human B7.1 on T cells (Lazetic et. al., J. Biol. Chem. 277:38660 (2002), or a nucleic acid encoding the CD28BP polypeptide (or expression vector comprising such nucleotide sequence encoding a CD28BP polypeptide ~~polypeptide~~). In a preferred embodiment, the CD28BP is CD28BP-15 (the polypeptide and nucleic acid sequences of CD28BP-15 are designated as SEQ ID NOS:66 and 19 in Int'l Patent App. PCT/US01/19973 (WO 02/00717), respectively). CD28BP-15 is also described in Lazetic et al., *supra*. Additional polypeptides that preferentially bind human CD28 are described in WO 02/00717. Such composition may comprise an excipient or carrier. Such a composition may be a pharmaceutical composition and the excipient or carrier may be a pharmaceutical excipient or carrier.